

REMARKS

This Amendment responds to the Office Action dated March 9, 2005 in which the Examiner rejected claims 14, 15, 22 and 23 under 35 U.S.C. §112 first paragraph, objected to claim 15, rejected claims 7 and 15 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting and stated that claims 1-6, 8-13, 16-21 and 24-26 are allowed.

New claims 27-32 have been added. Applicants respectfully submit that claims 27-32 are in condition for allowance.

As indicated above, the specification has been amended to point out that the personal computer 501 disclosed in Figure 3 and discussed in paragraph [0052] and [0057]. Applicants respectfully submit that the external device is included in the specification and enabled in Figures 3 and 9. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner approves the amendment to the specification and withdraws the rejection to claims 14, 15, 22 and 23 under 35 U.S.C. §112 first paragraph.

As indicated above, claim 15 has been amended to depend from claim 14. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner approves the correction and withdraws the objection to claim 15.

Applicants respectfully request the Examiner acknowledge the priority document filed January 10, 2001. Attached to this Amendment is a copy of the claim of priority as filed as well as a copy of the stamped postcard.

Claims 7 and 15 were rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claim 1 of copending application number 10/040380.

Applicants respectfully traverse the Examiner's rejection of the claims under the judicially created doctrine. The claims have been reviewed in light of the Office Action, and for reasons which will be set forth below, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner withdraws the rejection to the claims and allows the claims to issue.

Applicants respectfully point out to the Examiner that claim 1 of the co-pending application has been cancelled. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner withdraws the rejection to claims 7 and 15 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting.

The prior art of record, which is not relied upon, is acknowledged. The references taken singularly or in combination do not anticipate or make obvious the claimed invention.

Thus it now appears that the application is in condition for reconsideration and allowance. Reconsideration and allowance at an early date are respectfully requested.

If for any reason the Examiner feels that the application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact, by telephone, the Applicants' undersigned attorney at the indicated telephone number to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case.

In the event that this paper is not timely filed within the currently set shortened statutory period, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. The fees for such extension of time may be charged to our Deposit Account No. 02-4800.

In the event that any additional fees are due with this paper, please charge
our Deposit Account No. 02-4800.

Respectfully submitted,

BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.

Date: June 7, 2005

By: 

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Patent
Attorney's Docket No. 032567-014 017

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of)

Noriyuki JINBO et al.)

Application No.: Unassigned)

Filed: July 10, 2001)

For: IMAGE FORMING SYSTEM A ...)

Group Art Unit: Unassigned

Examiner: Unassigned

COPY

CLAIM FOR CONVENTION PRIORITY

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

The benefit of the filing date of the following prior foreign application in the following foreign country is hereby requested, and the right of priority provided in 35 U.S.C. § 119 is hereby claimed:

Japanese Patent Application No. 2000-210124

Filed: July 11, 2000

In support of this claim, enclosed is a certified copy of said prior foreign application. Said prior foreign application was referred to in the oath or declaration. Acknowledgment of receipt of the certified copy is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.

Date: July 10, 2001

By:

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日 本 国 特 許 庁
JAPAN PATENT OFFICE

別紙添付の書類に記載されている事項は下記の出願書類に記載されている事項と同一であることを証明する。

This is to certify that the annexed is a true copy of the following application as filed with this Office

出 願 年 月 日

Date of Application:

2000年 7月11日

出 願 番 号

Application Number:

特願2000-210124

出 願 人

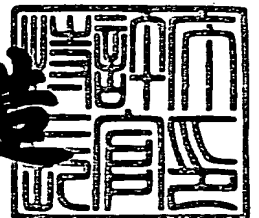
Applicant(s):

ミノルタ株式会社

2001年 4月27日

特 許 庁 長 官
Commissioner,
Japan Patent Office

及 川 耕 造



7-10-01 CRS

出証番号 出証特2001-3035471



Inventor: Noriyuki JINBO et al.

Appln. No. N/A

Docket No.: 032567-017

Work Atty: PNM

Date: July 10, 2001

Title: IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS SYSTEM AND IMAGE FORMING APPARTUS



The following was/were received in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date stamped hereon:

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Utility Patent Application Transmittal | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Executed Declaration/Power of Attorney | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Check for \$ <u>1,098.00</u> is enclosed |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Design Patent Application Transmittal | <input type="checkbox"/> Unexecuted Declaration/Power of Attorney | <input type="checkbox"/> Check for \$___ is enclosed |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Continuing Prosecution Application Request | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Assignment/Assignment Recordation Form Cover Sheet (PTO-1595) | <input type="checkbox"/> Charge \$___ to Deposit Account |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Provisional Application Cover Sheet | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Claim for Convention Priority w/ <u>One (1)</u> certified copy(s) | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Provisional Application Transmittal | <input type="checkbox"/> Preliminary Amendment | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Continuation/Divisional Application (Rule 1.53(b)) with copy of application | <input type="checkbox"/> Information Discl. Statement Transmittal Letter | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Continued Examination | <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Citation (PTO-1449) | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| INCLUDING: | <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement w/_ document(s) | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Specification (pages 1 - <u>44</u>) | <input type="checkbox"/> Petition for ___ Month Extension of Time | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Claims (claim(s) 1 - <u>26</u> , <u>8</u> pgs.) | <input type="checkbox"/> Constructive Petition for Extensions of Time | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Drawings (Fig(s). 1 - <u>21</u> , <u>21</u> pgs.) | <input type="checkbox"/> Bibliographic Data Entry Form | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Abstract of the Disclosure | | |



(10/00)